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Docket No. 740756-1894

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inter Patent Application of:)

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.)

Application Serial No. 09/197,534)

Filed: November 23, 1998)

For: LASER PROCESS)

Examiner: Coleman

Art Unit: 2823

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND REQUEST FOR
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRIOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

Regarding Japanese Laid Open Patent No. 4-11226, the undersigned certifies this reference was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. In particular, Japanese Laid Open Patent No. 4-11226 was cited by the Japanese Patent Office on March 26, 2002. It is requested that the accompanying information disclosure statement be considered and made of record in the above-captioned application. To assist the Examiner, this document is listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Regarding JP 4-307727, Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention that this reference was previously submitted by Applicant on June 15, 2000. Because it appears that only an English abstract was submitted for JP 4-307727, Applicant submits a

full English translation of JP 4-307727 as a supplement for the Examiner's full consideration. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

In this regard, it appears that the information cited in the Information Disclosure Statement/Form PTO 1449 of **June 15, 2000** (which cites the '727 patent), as well as the Information Disclosure Statements of **August 21, 2000** and **December 19, 2000**, have not been acknowledged/considered by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of the Form PTO 1449 be returned to the undersigned

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

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